Listing of the Claims

(previously presented) A quick-acting valve (18) comprising
a coil (19) supplied by a voltage source (25),
a voltage-dependent resistor (33) provided between the voltage source
 (25) and the coil (19), and

an auxiliary voltage source (35) connected in parallel to the coil (19), the voltage of said auxiliary voltage source (35) being opposite to that of said voltage source (25),

wherein the voltage-dependent resistor (33) includes a plurality of electronic switches (37,38,39) connected in series in the form of a cascade, said electronic switches (37,38,39) each bridging a series resistor (41) and being driven into the closing state when an input voltage ($U_{\rm e}$) applied by said voltage source falls below a given switching voltage ($U_{\rm s}$).

- 2. (previously presented) The quick-acting valve according to claim 1, wherein the auxiliary voltage source (35) comprises at least one Zener diode.
- 3. (previously presented) The quick-acting valve according to claim 1, wherein the auxiliary voltage source (35) is connected in series with a rectifier diode (36) and in parallel to the coil (19).
 - 4. (cancelled)
- 5. (previously presented) The quick-acting valve according to claim 1 wherein the switching voltage (U_e) is determined by a reference voltage path (46).
- 6. (previously presented) The quick-acting valve according to claim 1 wherein each electronic switch (37,38,39) is switched by an auxiliary transistor (43,44,45).